Integrated Wavelength Router

Abstract

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A router comprises a demultiplexer arranged to receive an input WDM signal containing N wavelengths, and apply its output, namely, the N separated the wavelengths, to a binary tree containing $\log_2 K$ stages of interconnected 1×2 switches. The switches can be integrated, and have their outputs crossing each other at each stage. The outputs of the final stage are applied to, and combined in, K multiplexers, which provide the K outputs of the router. If desired, a set of shutters can be interposed in the waveguides leading to the multiplexer inputs, thereby providing additional isolation.